

The Athena SWAN (Scientific Women's Academic Network) Charter was established in 2005 with the aim of "Encouraging and recognising commitment to advancing gender equality" within STEM subjects, i.e., science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The Athena SWAN agenda has grown overtime to promote equality in general. Scan the QR code opposite for more background about Athena SWAN at Heriot-Watt, including guidance and resources.



1. "Maheen Hasib Ignites Data Science Passion: Empowering the Next Generation"

Last month, our colleague Maheen Hasib in Dubai featured in a WiDSTORY (Women in Data science Worldwide by Stanford University) interview focusing on high school outreach and diversity in data science, particularly for young women. A key initiative was the Data Dig workshop engaging students from some of the top schools in Dubai, including girls-only schools. This workshop provided students with practical data science experience, including data analysis using Google Sheets and a creative group project. The feedback was exceptionally positive, highlighting increased interest in data science among students, especially girls.



Maheen Hasib is an Assistant Professor within the School of MACS in Dubai

A transcript of the interview can be accessed here: <https://bit.ly/MaheenHasib-WiDStory>



2. International Women's Day 2024





#InspireInclusion at HWU: an International Women's Day event & lunch

Celebrate International Women's Day with the STEM Inclusivity Network! Join us for an invited talk by Simon Chandler-Wilde (EDI Dean, University of Reading) and a panel discussion with representatives from across Heriot-Watt University community. We'll explore how the programs and strategies of the university (including the Students Union, Human Resources, Learning & Teaching, Public Engagement, Access & Inclusion, and Research) contribute to inspiring inclusion, and where we can do better. Let's champion inclusivity and unity together on this special day!

- A **buffet lunch** will be served so [please register here](#) or via the QR code opposite and help us plan.
- **Where:** National Robotarium, HWU Edinburgh campus
- **When:** Thursday 7 March, 11am-2pm



3. Equate Student Conference 2024 – Registration is now Open!

 <p>Equate Student Conference</p> <p>21 February, 10am - 4pm</p> <p>@Postgraduate Centre, Heriot Watt University</p> <p>Register via the Eventbrite link below or QR code opposite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/know-your-worth-equate-student-conference-tickets-794391405077</p>	<p>The theme of the 2024 Equate Student conference is “Know Your Worth”. This theme has been chosen by our Equate Student Network. It will be on the 21st of February at Heriot-Watt, Edinburgh, from 10 am until 4 pm. It is a conference made by students for students. By bringing together students, organisations, and professionals we hope to inspire the next generation of STEM workers to recognise and celebrate the value they bring to the STEM ecosystem.</p> 
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4. MACS Athena SWAN Summer Undergraduate Bursary Scheme

The aim of the **MACS Athena-SWAN Summer Undergraduate Bursary Scheme** is to improve gender equality across our three disciplines. The School will provide up to four £1000 bursaries to MACS students over the summer of 2024. Project ideas can come from students and/or academic staff from across the School. A project proposal, however, must be submitted by an academic member of staff that is willing to act as the project supervisor. Staff can access the application form via the following link (it is also available within the January issue of the Newsletter):



<https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/schools/mathematical-computer-sciences/about/athena-swan.htm#bursaries>

Note that the bursaries are not large. By way of guidance, £1000 is roughly equivalent to what the university would pay a *Student Ambassador* for 100-hours of their time. The duration of a project is therefore relatively flexible, e.g., it could be condensed into a few weeks or spread out across the summer months. You will find guidance and the application form below. Applications should be sent to **athena-macs@hw.ac.uk** by **NOON on Friday 5 April 2024**.

If you have suggestions or questions related to Athena SWAN, or an event that you would like to advertise, then please send them to us via athena-macs@hw.ac.uk. In addition, if you would like to be part of the MACS Athena SWAN Team (a.k.a. the Self-Assessment Team (SAT)) then please do get in touch.



*Audrey Repetti and Andrew Ireland
(MACS Athena Swan Coordinators)*

